



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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October 11, 2002

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tom Munson, Senior Reclamation Specialist 

RE: Site Inspection, Bonnie Birch, Paradise Project, S/023/058, Juab County, Utah

Date of Inspection: September 18, 2002
Time of Inspection: 11:00 a.m.
Conditions: Cloudy
Participants: Bonnie Birch and Helpers; Barry Katona, Consultant to Bonnie; Krissy Wilson, Wildlife Resources; Larry England, US Fish and Wildlife; Shawn Zinszer, Corp of Engineers; and Tom Munson, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To coordinate an inspection with all interested parties who regulate or have anything to do with wetlands

Observations:

We arrived on site and parked in a dry field adjacent to a wetland area. I observed several ponds within the proposed project and a lot of wetland vegetation. Mr. Larry England, an endangered plant specialist, did not feel there were any species worth noting. We stood around the machine that will be used to mine the peat and it appeared to be fashioned after a suction dredge with a cutter head. It was discussed that any water that comes from the wetland cannot be put back into the wetland, so a holding pond will need to be designed to hold the surray of peat material and water. I was not in agreement with this requirement, but it appears that it is a wetland regulation related to dredge and fill permits. I felt it would be better to let the water recycle back to the ponds.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

In conclusion, the trip was to make sure Ms. Birch obtained and completed the necessary permits to mine in a wetland. Mr. Shawn Zinszer, of the Corp of Engineers, is the person she will have to obtain the permit through. It was also agreed that any information she obtains or new maps she produces will be given to this Division as well.

jb
cc: Bonnie Birch
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